

# FRS NEWSLETTER

Volume 8 - Issue # 35 - September 2002

## Dear FRS-Holland Friends!

Welcome, we leave the 2002 Summer behind us preparing for the autumn and winter. Hopefully all of you have enjoyed your Summer holidays although the strange weather may have spoilt some fun! Welcome to those persons who have recently subscribed to the FRS Newsletter and thanks to all of you encouraging us with positive comments! Much appreciated... Activity on the SW bands is always somewhat low compared with the months to come. That's the reason the SW news is not as comprehensive as usual. Realize we do our best to inform you with as much news as possible but sometimes we have to decide deleting and/or leaving out items because of lack of space or because we feel it has no newsworthy. In other words: do not expect us to report about every test transmission or QSO. If that would be the case, we would need twice as many pages. August saw the Merckwiler and Boarle-Nassau DX-meetings, in September a DX-meeting was organized in Gronau. All-time FRS engineer Bobby Speed and I attended the meeting in Boarle-Nassau meeting and we had a good time. Another interesting date was Saturday August 31st: that day it was exactly 28 years ago (in 1974 it was also a Saturday...) the Dutch stations Veronica and RNI had to closed down. That day Radio 192 broadcasted from the MV Minerva off Scheveningen. And offshore enthusiasts were offered the chance to climb aboard. I was on the Minerva and it was a fantastic day. Radio 192 represents the spirit of the old Veronica and did a great job not only that day but the whole week prior to that Saturday. How great that such a station is alive 'n kicking in 2002...

*73, Peter V.*

## FRS Broadcasting Activities

When you read the FRS-Holland has just been or will soon be on air. Let's hope we are just in time and this late Summer edition will reach you before the actual broadcast. September 21st/22nd FRSH can be heard with a 24 hour broadcast. Just like Sept. 2001, we have decided to avoid the 48 mhz in favor of 41 meters. Most likely FRSH will be heard on 7450 kHz starting sometime in the Saturday afternoon. Over a 4-hour schedule will be repeated time after time until the Sunday evening. We aim to start at such time that the Sun morning report is to be heard between approx. 09:30 - 13:30 CEST (07:30-11:30 UTC), just like any 'normal' Sunday morning. Over the Summer period we have been inactive knowing that propagation was mostly (very) poor making it a waste of time to put out a lengthy broadcast. So, we have saved our energy for the upcoming month! We have planned our 22nd Birthday on air celebrations late October (27th) and we hope to do a X-Mas broadcast Dec. 15th or 22nd. We did already announce to be willing to test on 41 and 31 metres at different times/days. This will eventually take place in the next few weeks and months. A new antenna was constructed and this will be tested out. Tests could take place at any moment, even during weekdays in the evening hours! In some cases we will let you know via E-mail. The FRSH spirit will be widely heard in the months to come propagating 'A Balance between Music and Information joined to one format, the FRS concept is a different, just a bit different'.

\*\*\* NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS \*\*\* NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS \*\*\*

< frs.holland@hccnet.nl >

P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands

## SW FREE RADIO SCENE

### General

In this late Summer 2002 edition we cover the period July 7th- September 9th.

### Propagation

As the Summer is almost behind us, the SW propagation is improving. Night time reception is getting worse (signals fading out earlier in the evening) while Sun morning reception is getting better. Sun July 14th and 21st (very) poor conditions. Sun July 28th conditions going up and down, Sun August 4th reception conditions were appalling. A week later on the 11th during the famous Merckwiler DX camp things were much better. Sun August 25th conditions were fair, a week later in the first Sept. weekend propagation was good. Sept. 8th and 15th propagation on SW was fair to good.

☐ The DX meeting in Gronau taking place on Sat/Sun Sept. 7th/8th ended up in a raid. Sat evening Sept. 7th at approx. 20:20 CEST, a Bundespost

officer and 4 policemen suddenly appeared at the DX-camp site and confiscated a SW transmitter, modulator and CD player. The transmitter was operating on 6276 at the moment the action took place. The transmitter was put out Radio Dynamics programming. As far as we have heard, the action didn't go smoothly. A few plates offering insurance had to be calmed down by means of pepper spray. Two persons who attended the meeting suffered from minor injuries.

☐ RADIO 222 is looking for any shortwave stations that can help broadcast their tapes for two days 'Saturday and Sunday'. Radio 222 staff were already active on Radio 222 in the 1969-1975 period. In those days the station was to be heard on 222m/1350 kHz medium wave. The station is located in the north-west of the UK in the Merseyside area. For more info visit to < radio222@world.com >. E-mail add is < radio222@world.com >.

☐ We met Alfred, the OP of RADIO ALFA LIMA ☐ at the Boarle-Nassau meeting on Sat August 24th. We had a nice long talk (and came good laughing as well) about various aspects of SW Free radio. Alfred: a very nice chap driving around in a huge American classic car told us that RAL is concentrating on 48 and 19 metres. At the moment there's no activity on 21 MHz. 15070 is being used (almost) every week from Saturday evening till the night till Sunday mornings. These time are targeted at Northern America and other remote areas. Response for these times is encouraging provided propagation is favourable. Sun morning RAL is putting out its usual live programming with phone-ins, music and Alfred's speech. Frequencies vary between 6260 and 6305 kHz, mostly around 6295. In recent weeks RAL was a few times to be heard on 6260 which is in Alfa Lima terms quite low. Sun August 18th RAL went as low as 6252, a freq hardly used by any FR stations these days. On 48 metres RAL can be noted with excellent strength and modulation. E-mail: < gillier@verano.deloze.nl >. Website: < www.alfalima.net >.

☐ ANTONIA RADIO was heard in the late evening of Sat August 10th. Frequency was 6275 kHz. Sun August 18th the station was heard in the early afternoon and just below 6260. Power is 25W connected to an inverted V. E-mail add is < antoniaaudio@hotmail.com >. Smail: Tule 12, 8061 KU Elburg in the Netherlands.

☐ RADIO BORDERHUNTER was heard with only 20W from Luxembourg Thurs August 15th. Most likely this was coming from a holiday location! Sun July 21st Borderhunter was monitored on 7490 and Sun August 11th Borderhunter was on 48 metres 6210 and 7490. At least on 41 metres the station was live on air. New address is P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands.

☐ RADIO BRIGITTE is back under its original name. For some time the station used a different and rather unappealing name. Sun July 28th 6307 and 6374. Sun August 4th 6540 Sun August 18th saw Brigitte on 6307. The station is now using a brandnew address: P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten, the Netherlands. E-mail: < radio@uniflower@hotmail.com >.

☐ RADIO CAVENDISH from the UK was heard on 6277 Sat August 3rd. The station is rarely to be heard. We suspect this is the same Radio Cavendish being active in the late 70s/early 80s. We do not have any address.

☐ RADIO DE CASANOWAS was noted on 6275. Sun July 21st and 28th. Sun August 11th a special pre was aired on the occasion of the Merckwiler DX-Camp. Sun Sept. 1st De Casanovas returned on 6275, it looks like this freq is the station's new home frequency. Address is P.O.Box 46, 7160 AA Nieuwe, The Netherlands. E-mail is < marco@hetnet.nl >.

☐ CLASSIC ROCK RADIO ☐ returned following a few month's absence on SW. Sun Sept. 1st. The power was out on 7475 and both signal and mod quality were excellent. The lasted till just before 09:00 UTC.

☐ CRAZY WAVE RADIO ☐ from Germany was using 6260 kHz Sat July 6th and Sun July 7th in the late evening. The station's two deejays are Chris Lee and Andy Walker. Both are: dyed in the wool when it comes to SW Free radio. Sat Sept. 7th CWR was once again on air in the evening hours. First part of the transmission a very strong signal was provided, later on in the evening the signal almost faded out.

☐ RADIO DELTA ELBURG was heard in poor quality on 6278 Sat August 10th. Address is P.O.Box 41, 8080 AA Elburg in the Netherlands.

☐ RADIO DEVOLON ☐ was heard via the European Radio Service. Sun August 25th, at the start of the freq was 6206 but unfortunately the signal was drifting ending up on 6203. Moreover due to a strong unknown station on 6201 part of RDR's programme was unobtainable, the signal was totally eliminated. Radio Devolon is a station concentrating on producing serious programmes, it is sad that part of the broadcast was unheard. Originally it was planned to go on air on 41 metres. We do not



know why this plan didn't come off. Good news was that the Aug. 25th txm was repeated on 6289 a week later. This time a fair/good signal went out via the ERS although the tx was still drifting.

■ **EUROPEAN RELAY SERVICE (10)** made its debut on Sun August 25th. That morning Radio Devotion Int. was played but this was certainly not a success because the tx was drifting (VO not 100% stable) and an unknown Dutch [?] pirate "swallowed" ERS' signal. Alex Warner who was involved with Eastside Radio is the key figure behind this initiative. Interested stations who would like to be relayed, should write to the Swedish Ytterby address. During part of the RDI relay, a fair signal was noted.

■ **EUROPEAN MUSIC RADIO** will likely become active in the upcoming months. At this moment there are no dates however. We will await further news and hope to inform you in our October DX Show. Add is P.O.Box 2702, 6049 ZG Herten. E-mail: <europeanmusicradio@aol.com>.

■ The **FARMERS FROM HOLLAND** were heard in the early evening hours of Sun August 11th. Freq was 6284. It looks like the station has learned from the past and is only so now and then on air rather than each week. Website: <www.farmersfromholland.it>. E-mail: <farmers@fms-net> or <Studio@fms-net@holland.it>. The address is P.O.Box 108 in 7720 AC Dalsen in the Netherlands.

■ **RADIO FOX 48 (10)** was on 6280 Sun July 14th. During the txm the moderator was reacting against the paoloun. In his opinion for too many SW stations are playing this typical Dutch land of music. Although we do understand his opinion, we feel that the SW free radio bands without paoloun sounds are like the farmers without a Rohde & Schwarz tx.... Sun August 11th 6265 was in use with a lengthy programme. E-mail: <radiofox48@hotmail.com>.

■ **RADIO FREE LIMBURG** was heard with fine signals using 6205 Sat July 6th. E-mail address is <pr273@hetnet.nl>.

■ Dutch **RADIO GALAXY** was heard on 7490 Sun August 25th and six days later on 6306. In SW Free Radio land it often happens different stations are using the same name. And Galaxy is not an exception. In the past there was a German Radio Galaxy but that one is inactive for already a very long period. In the UK there's also a Radio Galaxy which may still be active on an irregular basis. The station put out a fairly weak signal on 41 metres. E-mail: <radiofox48@hotmail.com>.

Website: <radiofox48@hotmail.com>.

■ British **RADIO GERONIMO (10)** was heard on 7535 Sun June 23rd 19.30-20.30 hours. Sunday 7th July Geronimo was on 7520kHz at 1900 1st 2015hrs with a Dave Scott program and some nice continuous music.

Some reports for the evening of 7th gave them a very strong signal in the UK on 7520kHz. During that occasion, Chris Watson was using a 41mb half wave loop antenna (triangle shape) hanging from a tree, this may have made better reception over the usual inverted 'M'. Sun August 10th 6255 kHz was in use. It was one of the station's rare 48 mb txms as nowadays Geronimo is mostly to be found on 31 and 41 metres. Sun Sept. 1st at 18.00 UTC Geronimo was heard with a fair signal on 6280. E-mail: <radiogeronimo@hotmail.com>.

■ Sat July 27th **RADIO GREENSLANDER** was heard testing on a number of freqs including 6965, 7450 and 7485. Signals were very low. A day later 7455 was used but also this time a very poor signal was radiated. Sun July 21st the station was testing on 7485 in USB. Better results were made August 31st on 3925 and Sept. 1st on 3925 and 3945.

■ Although July 15th was announced in the previous edition, **INTERNATIONAL MUSIC RADIO** restarted txms on 13840 via Radio 510/IRRS July 6th. The next day a repeat was noted on the same freq.

■ **JOLLY ROGER RADIO** 6245 August 4th P.O.Box 39, Waterford, Republic of Ireland. E-mail: <jr\_radio@hotmail.com>.

■ **RADIO JOYSTICK** was heard with good signals via the IRRS tx on 11840 kHz Sat August 3rd & 17th and Sun July 21st and August 11th. RJ is one of the stations from Germany which already was active in the 1980s. The station is a one man operation run by Charlie Prince who is in the mean time a SW 'veteran'. Add is P.O.Box 100812, D-45408 Mülheim. E-Mail add remains: <charp@zorro.de>.

■ **RADIO KORAK INT.** was heard on 3927 Sat July 14th, August 3rd & 24th. P.O.Box 134 in 3780 BC Voorhuizen in the Netherlands.

■ **RADIO KREATIV** is a new station which was to be heard on 76 metres 3925 Fri evening August 30th. A fair signal was noted, an E-mail was not announced. Address is P.O.Box 134, 3780 BC Voorhuizen in the Netherlands.

■ **LASER HOT HITS** can be heard on three freqs which are in parallel with each other: 9385 kHz on 31 metres, 7465/41 metres and 6219/48 metres. Reception varies between almost invisible to good depending on what time of the day you are tuning in. Reception in the UK is better as UHF transmits from Irish soil. Add remains P.O.B 293, Merlin, Ontario NOP

TWO in Canada. Don't confuse LHM with Laser Radio. The latter carried out tests on 3935 kHz.

■ **RADIO LIKEDIELEER** was heard on 7510 Sun July 21st [poor signal], 6290 Sun July 28th. This was a test from a new location resulting in a strong signal. 6284 Sun August 4th. 6294 and 6210 were used Sun August 18th. A switch to 6210 was made following a call. A week later Likedieeler was noted on 6307 and 7485 kHz. Sept. 1st saw Likedieeler on 7494 with only a poor signal. Address is P.O.Box 73, 7160 AB Nede, the Netherlands.

■ **RADIO MARABU** remains active via a handful of outlets. Not only on SW but also on FM and satellite Sat July 13th Marabu was heard with a 24 hour broadcast on 6210. An IRRS relay was aimed on 13840 Sun July 28th. Sat and Sun Sept. 7th/8th Marabu was heard with fair to good signals on 6210 kHz. Pz of Marabu are worth while to listen to! Add is P.O.Box 1166, D-49187 Belm, Germany. E-mail: <marabu@radioamarabude>. Website: <www.radioamarabude>.

■ **RADIO MI AMIGO** from the UK was heard with live programming on 6299 Sat/Sun July 6th & 7th. Txms on the Internet were in parallel with the SW outlet putting out only 12W. Add is P.O.Box 53, Blstone WV14 6YS, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, UK.

■ **RADIO NORTHPOLE** from the Netherlands made one of its rare txms on 6280 on Sat July 6th. Later that month Northpole was noted on 7490. Add is P.O.Box 170, 6940 AB Didam, the Netherlands.

■ **RADIO NIGHTLY** is a new appearance on the SW bands. The station was heard in the mid evening hours of Sat July 20th. Nightly tested on 6283 and 6287. Signal quality was fair. Sat August 10th the station was heard on 6259 announcing the following E-mail add: <radio8th@aol.com>.

#### SW ADDRESSES \*\* SW ADDRESSES \*\* SW ADDRESSES \*\* SW ADDRESSES

3 = POBox 663, 7900 AR Hoogeveen, The Netherlands

4 = POBox 130, 92504 Ruell-Clux, France.

10 = SRB 1136, D-06201 Mersburg, Germany (new)

5 = SIS, Oysta Porten 29, 442 54 Ytterby in Sweden

■ **RADIO NOVA INT.** has been missing for a few months. However, there is some good news as the station is planning to return in the near future. More news in the October DX Show. Address: RNI, c/o P.O.Box 130 in 92504 Ruell-Clux, France. RNI requests a SAE from the UK or 2 x IRRS or 2 x US\$ from overseas.

■ **OZONE RADIO** announced to be regularly using 7445 kHz/41 metres between 05.30-10.45 UTC. Reason is that too many stations are using the top end of the 48 mb these days. Ozone plans to use the 6280 after 18.00 UTC. Sun Sept. 8th saw Ozone surprisingly on 6240 kHz. Add is 85 Hillside Rd West, Suffolk, NR35 8H in the UK.

E-mail: <ibm44ozone@compuserve.com>.

■ UK-based **POWER RADIO** was heard on 76 metres 3930 August 10th. Signal quality was poor. No address was given out.

■ **PRIDE OF THE NETHERLANDS** is a new SW station which was noted on 6258 in very good quality Tuesday July 9th. Sun July 21st POTN was on 6210. During the broadcast a mobile tel. number was given out. E-mail address: <potn@hotmail.com>.

■ A new **RELAY FACILITY** on SW can be contacted via the following E-mail: <freemom100@aol.com>.

■ **RADIO ROB 007** received a report from as far away as Russia. The listener's location was 800 km south-east of Moscow. The Dutch station was monitored late in the morning on 6398 kHz in the month of August.

E-mail: <radio007@hotmail.com>.

■ **RADIO ROCK** is the name of an unknown station which was heard testing on 6280 Sat August 17th/Sun August 18th. The station was noted on the continent at various times including very early in the morning (05.00 UTC) and the early afternoon (10.15 UTC = 12.15 CEST). Non-stop music was aired. Signal strength was fair/good although the station suffered from De Casonova's strong 6275 signal at 10.45. During the broadcast a tel. phone was given out as well as an E-mail add: <radiorocksw@man.com>.

■ **UK ROCKET RADIO** was heard testing on 6285 in the late evening of Sat August 10th. It was the station's debut on SW. Signal quality was fair. E-mail: <rocket48@hotmail.com>.

■ **Powerhouse RADIO SPACEMAN** is not a very regular station. But when the station is on air, it is putting out one of the strongest signals on the entire free radio SW band. Sun August 25th and Sept. 1st saw Spaceman on 6400. This frequency is often used for qrp-qro nowadays. The Spaceman OP declared 6400 gave the best antenna match making him decide to use that channel.

STAR CLUB RADIO aired a special commemorative Elvis Presley show on 6240 Sun August 18th. August saw the 25th anniversary of Elvis' death in 1977. SCL is a German oldies station.

RADIO SUMMERMEETING was a collaboration of three Dutch stations visiting the Boarde Nassau meeting in the weekend of August 24th/25th. The stations were Radio Omroep Zuid, Radio Victoria and Radio Tonic (the Dutch one). The spot were the meeting took place was ideal for exciting crowds. One 76 and one 48 mhz aerial were erected and live programming took place from the little building at the DX camp site. Psa were started in the late afternoon on 6275 and 3933 and continued good.

Following this in December, February and April, SWINGING RADIO ENGLAND was heard on 6204 at 14.10 UTC on Sun Sept 16th. However, we are unsure whether this was just an old tape or a serious test? This could have been a relay via the WNRK by perhaps just playing a tape for testing purposes? E-mail: <Swingingradioengland@hotmail.com>.

German RADIO DR, TIM (5) is well known for his "Sonderausstrahlung" (special programmes). In the evening hours of Sun August 11th Dr. Tim was heard on an "After Merckwiler" show on 6260. Freq was changed to 6305 because of increasing utility interference. Fri August 16th a 60 min. commemorative Elvis Presley show was aired on 6297 kHz. A special QSL card was offered to those sending in a correct reception report. Dr. Tim provided a solid signal in Western Europe and even in Finland good reception was noted. Sun.

Sun August 11th RADIO TOREHWAIR, aired a special tm during the Merckwiler DX comp. Mind you the ps was not coming from the Merckwiler slot but from the usual RLI location. Signal quality on 6296 was excellent. Address is P.O.Box 94, 7038 ZH Zeddum in the Netherlands.

RADIO TOWER was heard on 7490 Sun July 7th and 6301 Sun August 4th. The usual powerful signal was heard. Their E-Mail is: <shawnr@netmail.nl>. This one will be closing down in September. New E-mail: <radiotower@netmail.com>. Add is P.O.Box 49, 7475 ZH Markelo.

UK RADIO was heard on 6305 Sun July 28th. Sun August 11th UK Radio was on 6266. Add is P.O.Box 53, Blisane, WV14 6YS Wolverhampton, West Midlands, the UK.

Sun July 7th Dutch station UNION RADIO (3) was noted with the usual quality signals on 6300, 6305 and several freqs between 6385 and 6399. The station was noted in the early evening hours between 17.00 and 18.00 UTC. Power was just under 100W. Union Radio can now be reached via E-mail: <radiounion@hotmail.com>.

RADIO WAVES INT. (4) from France aired a special programme in memory of the tragic event of Sept 11th 2001. The station was on air on 11401 kHz airing a special program called WTC911. In addition RWI announced to be on air Sun Sept. 15th via ams ba and also via relay via different stations. Station OP Peter Hils reports that both modulations have been improved recently. Website: <www.rwi.fr> or <go to/rwi>.

Scottish WEEKEND MUSIC RADIO was noted on 7325 kHz Sun July 28th and August 25th. Signal quality was fair. Add used to be 14 Stone Row, Londonderry, BT52 1EP, Coleraine, UK. The E-Mail add should be this one: <wmr@37.com>.

WEST COAST RADIO can be heard most weekends on various freqs, mostly on or close to 6400 kHz. The station is one of the few Dutch stations broadcasting from the western part of the country. WCR always puts out nice and well-modulated signals using some BOW of power. Sat August 24th saw the station at 07.15 on 6398, later that day the OP went to the Boarde Nassau meeting where he had some interesting talks with some members of the FRSH crew. Email is <westcoast48@makro.nl>.

Dave Martin's WEST & NORTH KENT RADIO was heard on 48 mhz during various occasions in August. Sun July 21st 6205 was in use, Sat/Sun August 24th and 25th the station was heard on 6285, on Sun 9390 was running in parallel with 48 mhz. Most of the times the station's signal on the European continent was poor. The 31 mhz outlet sometimes provided excellent reception. E-mail is <wnk@37.com>.

### CAROLINE NEWS

#### Worldspace

July 9th it was announced that a deal between Worldspace and Peter Moore, the entrepreneur currently holding the licence to broadcast as Radio Caroline via satellite from the UK, will bring Radio Caroline to a potential of millions of households across Europe and North Africa. A public awareness campaign from Worldspace, part of which will be included within the UK's media, is set for October. It is expected that Caroline will be launched on Worldspace as part of a 'bouquet' of stations, including the national Virgin Radio, some weeks before the campaign. The deal comes as Worldspace,

desperate to establish itself in the market, had previously reported poor sales and 'lack-up' in its various catchment areas within its footprint. Caroline will be receivable within the UK by anybody with a Worldspace radio receiver, bringing it to a portable platform for the first time. But also in the whole of Europe and vast areas within Africa. Widely renowned to be a 'retro-sound' organisation, Caroline's appearance via Worldspace is likely to cost Moore nothing for an initial period of at least 12 months. In return, this will allow Worldspace to advertise an enhanced English speaking content during their autumn marketing campaign. Ahead of appearance on Worldspace, Moore has instructed his team of volunteer broadcasters to sharpen up their act to produce a more professional and consistent output for the UK based station. Part of this knocking into shape has included the banning of Caroline presenters from mentioning on the air any products, websites or radio news groups other than those sanctioned by Moore. Equally banned to the presenters is their writing on any of the internet based discussions and debates, or websites. They are also banned from attending events. Presenters disagreeing with Moore's new 'put up or shut up' policy have been told to leave the station. Moore hopes that by tightening up his ship in this way he can move the UK based operation into the league of the professional commercial operators, leaving behind the current 'amateur' Caroline image that isn't taken seriously by advertising and marketing agencies, or the radio industry as a whole. He is adamant that by launch day on Worldspace, a stiffer and more refined 'New Caroline' will have evolved.

In the mean time Caroline has already been testing via Worldspace. In the UK there's a lot of commotion in free radio circles because the new Caroline service will be a Pay-Service. That means that listeners must pay a flat rate each month to be able to tune in to the Worldspace programming. As far as we know, the money is not meant for Caroline only, but also to receive a number of different stations just like Caroline making use of the Worldspace facilities.

Radio Netherlands Media Network reported that Caroline's first appearance on the Worldspace AfriStar satellite test channel was on Friday 19th July on the west beam. Caroline announced that the station would broadcast on all three beams of AfriStar; there was some confusion at first. On 23rd July Caroline opened just before 01.00 with opening announcement and Caroline theme. Caroline announced the opening on both AfriStar and Worldspace and explained that these were test transmissions and that live transmissions would shortly commence on a subscription basis. The latest news is that full programming via Worldspace on the AfriStar satellite was commenced on Tuesday Sept. 9th. It should not be expected for a while. On Caroline's website <www.radio-caroline.nl> you will find details how to subscribe and how to purchase a special Hitachi Worldspace receiver. If you take a one year subscription to Caroline the price will be reduced from £60 to £40 making an average of £ 3.25 a month.

Mike Hayes can now be heard on Radio Caroline Holland. Mike who now lives in Holland and has been on radio since 35 years, can be heard between 16 and 19 hrs each and every Tuesday. Remember that the programming via the Dutch Caroline website is different from the satellite output. Surf to: <www.radio-caroline.nl> for news, info and webradio.

### NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

#### Laser Radio

British Laser Radio announced to be running their first test broadcast Sunday 7th July 14.00-22.00 UTC on 5935 KHz shortwave, transmitting with 100,000 watts. More tests were carried out 5935 kHz in July (21st) and August, mostly on Sunday evenings. The 5935 outlet is aimed from a foreign station, our guess is that tests are coming from a site in the eastern part of Europe. So far no presented ps were heard, instead non-stop music, jingles and extracts from Laser and Radio Caroline. Psa which were announced for Sun July 7th were not heard. The station is planning to start via satellite as well. When looking at their website: <www.laserradio.net>, the following info is revealed: 'No definite launch date has been set, however preparations are continuing for Laser Radio to be available via satellite with possible EPG listing for Sky subscribers. Our satellite broadcasting licence has been issued by the British Radio Authority and we are now undertaking in depth research regarding sales and marketing of the planned service. Keep checking this website for announcements regarding future plans. In the meantime enjoy the music brought to you via live365, if you can't hear it already, then just click the 'on-air' button located to the left.' And that implies this night now Laser is to be heard only via the Internet. The station also informs its listeners about 'The Communicator Club' which is the place where listeners will be able to find the latest news and information about

what's happening behind the scenes at LowRadio.net plus special offers and discounts on various merchandise including a free QSL service. Keep listening and checking here - more details of membership benefits and joining details for the Communicator Club will be announced in the near future. **Stratford, BCM Aquinas, London WC1N 3XX, England.**

From a Caroline ship to a Caroline island

Euroadio 2002, the Offshore Echo's / France Radio Club annual event, took place in Calais on Saturday 6th July. This year there was the rediship *MV M Amigo*, the home of Radio Caroline during the 1960s & 70s. Guests were Steve England, Paul Rusting and Fred Bolland. As well as video footage of the *M Amigo*, the guests recalled their involvement. Fred Bolland spoke about providing finance for the Dutch service on Caroline, and a number of other offshore stations. Steve England remembered a number of anecdotes, as well as recounting how some of the Caroline jingles came together, while Paul Rusting told how George Harrison had given a number of sums of money to help Caroline. Paul also spoke about the new Isle of Man longwave station and revealed that the offshore aerial platform has officially been named Caroline Island. Pictures of Euroadio 2002 can be seen at < [www.offshoreecho.com](http://www.offshoreecho.com) >. More pictures and news brief in Offshore Echo's 127, with a full report in OEM 128.

Scandinavian Weekend Radio

Scandinavian Weekend Radio is Scandinavia's first private shore-based station run by approx. 10 enthusiastic Finnish radio-minded persons. In the June edition #34 we paid attention to this interesting Finnish project. The station was heard on 11720 Sat July 6th, Sat Aug. 3rd and also Sat Sept. 7th. On the latter date the station was picked up at 14.30 UTC, that moment reception was fairly good at the FRS monitoring service in the Netherlands. Lower frequencies used by the station are for more difficult to catch in Western Europe. Realize the station is only using low power and on higher frequencies signals cover much larger areas. E-Mail: < [info@swradio.net](mailto:info@swradio.net) >.

Rec. reports: < [rapart@swradio.net](mailto:rapart@swradio.net) >. Website: < [www.swradio.net/](http://www.swradio.net/) >.

Offshore Reunion

On Saturday August 10th 2002, there was a 35th Anniversary Offshore Reunion for station offshore personnel (The Wet Club) to commemorate August 14th 1967. Mary and Chris Payne from the Radio London website along with some dedicated offshore radio friends had organised a fantastic event. Many former offshore personalities attended the reunion in The Doggett's Coat and Badge, Blackfriars Bridge in London. The following former offshore personalities were attending this reunion:

Mike Ahearn (Caroline North, South, Paul Alexander (Rusting) (Caroline 73), John Stewart (alias Chris Stewart alias John Aston (KING, 390), Caroline North, South, 270, 355), Nick Bailey (Caroline South, North), Bud Bellow (Howie Castle) (Caroline South), Woolf Byrne (City), Gordon Cusack (Caroline South), Robbie Dale (Robinson) (Caroline South), Johnny Flux = John Edward (City, London, Graham Gill (London, Britain, England, 390, Caroline North, South, RNH), Mark Hammett = Mark Stone (RNG, Caroline South, 355, Caroline North, Keith Hampshire (Caroline South, Dave Hawkins (technician on London), Ronan O'Rahilly, Phil Joy (City), Duncan Johnson (London, RNH), Mick Luzzit (Caroline South, North), Roger Scott = Arnold Layne (Greg Bence) (Essex, 270, 390, Caroline North, RNH), Keith Skues (Caroline South, London, Ed Stewart (Caroline South, London), Caroline South, North), Tommy Vance (Caroline South, London), Johnny Walker (England, Caroline South), Willy Walker (London), Graham Webb (Caroline South), David Williams (Caroline South, North). Five pictures surf to < [www.offshore-radio.de/](http://www.offshore-radio.de/) >.

RSL Ships

Bob Le Roi has put a very interesting photo on his website. East Anglia Productions boss Ray Anderson (who once bought the *MV Communicator* from British authorities) has recently purchased two ships which could be used for future RSLs. Photos of these ships can be looked at on < [www.bobleui.com.uk](http://www.bobleui.com.uk) >.

Howard Rose

Mid July we heard the news that Howard Rose had died. Howard was a very talented radio personality. He had a brilliant radio style, his voice was also highly distinctive and reminded people of the old Radio London DJ style. Nonetheless, he somehow integrated his own style into a unique blend of everything that was best about the 60s offshore pirate pop jocks.

Hans Knot, our contributor, wrote the following memorial story covering Howard's life in radio land.

"During the more than 33 years that I'm writing about the medium radio it was never before so difficult looking for words to compile a story. Thursday July 18th 2002, after an operation, Howard G Rose died at the age of 49 years after a heart attack. Most people in radio land knew Howard as Chrispian St John or Joy Jackson. He was one of the very first British Anoraks who I knew after I started writing for Pirate Radio News in 1969.

Very young, 16 years of age at that stage, Howard wanted to grab and eat everything which had to do with Pirate and Offshore Radio and so he did also read my magazine and got, on regular basis, in contact with me. Of course he started his own station at that time and thus was doing illegal things according to British law working for an unlicensed land based radio station. Although this was a very tiny little one, bigger stations would soon become reality for little Chrispian. It was in 1971 that he, as on 18 year old boy, climbed onboard the *MEBO II*, the multi-coloured radio ship being the home of Radio North Sea International. There he became part of the international service which supplied us with the perfect sound of RNH, the Summer of 71! Howard learnt a lot from his fellow deejays like Paul May, Martin Kayne and the guy who hired him at that time, Steve Merrile. It was also on one of my visits to the Oude Boerenhofstede at Naard, where the

land based studios of RNH were housed, where I met Chrispian for the very first time. In 1971 he was dismissed by the station and recently he wrote a story of his dismissal in *Soundscapes*, the online journal for media and music culture at the University of Groningen. See

**FRS SALES PRODUCTIONS offers a comprehensive list of tapes from radio stations around the world. This month special R.N.I. and Veronica offers. In addition we have some great material from Radio 192's offshore week. On cassette, CD or MD. Interested? Send us an E-mail: < [frs.bolland@hccnet.nl](mailto:frs.bolland@hccnet.nl) > or drop us a line via P.O.Box 2702,**

the Spring edition under Volume 4 the article with the title 'Getting the sack' < [www.soundscapes.info](http://www.soundscapes.info) >. But it was not only RNH which took the interest of Howard. In 1972 he went to the station, where he tuned in to in the sixties: Radio Caroline. In March 1968 both Caroline vessels were towed away from the British Coast and went into Amsterdam harbour. After being towed and in Zaandam harbour for many years, they were sold for scrap, ordered by the Wijnveldier Tender Company. The Caroline organisation owned a large amount of money. It was Gerard van der Zee who repurchased the *MV M Amigo* for Ronan O'Rahilly enabling Radio Caroline to return to the airwaves once again. First they started as Radio 199 and being almost winter, the station came in clearly and we enjoyed in particular the Christmas programming in 1972, where Howard, a.k.a. Chrispian, played a key role. It looked like that the station would soon cease again because the crew, which wasn't properly paid by the organization, hijacked the ship and towed it into harbour again. With hard working of the deejays and volunteers, the *MV M Amigo* was soon back at sea and the most famous radio station on Earth was again rocking and rolling from the only place Radio Caroline belongs, the free international waters. It seemed Chrispian was very restless and later, at the end of 1973, he wrote me that he would soon leave for Germany. There, in the harbour of Cuxhaven, a new radio ship would be fitted out under very hard conditions. Even one of the crewmembers died during the outfit of the *MV Jeanette*. The new ship would be used for Radio Atlantic, which had earlier hired transmission time from Radio Caroline. With their own ship, off the coast of Zealand, they started also an international service and Chrispian once again was part of a very good team including Steve England, Andy Anderson & Terry Davis. In the Seventies Howard played a role within the Independent Radio, which started with LBC and Capital Radio in 1973 as the first commercial stations in Great Britain. He could be heard at stations like Swansea Sound and Viking Radio, but the sea still had a special place in his heart. It was Abe Nathan's Voice of Peace, a station in the Mediterranean, which was the next station to work for. Howard stayed for many years in the Mediterranean. While doing my research for my book on the history of the Voice of Peace I interviewed a lot of people and every time Chrispian was mentioned as a very good deejay and friend, although some told me that he sometimes could be very pigheaded and tried several times to get things his way. Then more Rocking on the Northsea' came for Howard under his nickname Joy Jackson, sometimes adding J in the middle. Not only was he responsible for the newscast from 1983 on board the *MV Ross Revenge*, the new Radio Caroline ship, he also made a lot of prestigious online music programs, we will never forget. The combination of the music he played, compared with his knowledge of the music, his excellent voice made it all complete for listening with good pleasure. About his period on board the



MY Rose Revenge Joy Jackson wrote a book called 'The Pirates Who Waive the Rules', a book which didn't get the publicity it deserved. In the eighties Howard played an important role in co-starting the very first golden oldies station in Britain, Radio Sovereign. It became headlines, not only in Britain but also in Western Europe. It was an illegal station and therefore it was one day forced to go off the air, but it returned later at the Rivers in France. Howard was not involved anymore because he preferred to set up his own radio magazine in the UK. After a false start, a second attempt was very successful and The Radio Magazine was born, now already more than 12 years ago. In between he was also one of the co-owners of KCBG, a radio station in his home town Kettering. Just one week before his death, the message came in that Howard and Patricia, his wife, had sold The Radio Magazine and the Gold Crest Communications to a big publisher. It was stated that Howard would be staying on the key role man, but the new step in his career could not last for longer than a week. He is leaving behind Patricia whom he did marry last year, and three children. I hope they have the strength in the time to come to carry this heavy loss." (Hans Knot)

IF, offshore and the BBC were all well represented at his funeral. Ronan O'Riordan and dozens of Howard's former colleagues - including Tony Allen, Steve England and Carl Kingston attended the funeral. Former colleague Roger Day made a superb eulogy chronicling Howard's periods of loss.

#### Kenny Page

Also in July, another former Caroline Jack and YoP Programme Controller Kenny Page died after a long term illness. Kenny did some work in hospital radio. His first programme was 'Kenny's Corner' on Radio Clyde in January 1974, and two years later he joined Radio Caroline. The following year he set off for the summer Mediterranean, becoming Programme Controller on the Voice of Peace. He then returned to Scotland and Radio For in Dundee where he hosted lunchtime and evening programmes. He also became Music Controller at Radio For. Kenny was great fun and totally committed to radio. There must be a fantastic radio station up there somewhere. (Paul Rusing)

#### Joop Verhoof

Thursday July 18th, on the same day Howard Rose passed away, another former Offshore radio personality died. In the Erasmie hospital former Mi Amigo deejay Joop Verhoof died from cancer. Joop was 56. He started his career at Radio Atlantica in 1973 before joining Mi Amigo and becoming the station's programme-director. He was amongst the deejays who were forced to leave the Benelux settling down in Spanish Playa de Aro.

#### Reminiscing...

August 14th many radio stations paid attention to the fact it was on this day in 1967 many British Offshore radio stations left the airwaves as the new day the MCA became law. On Blast 1385 AM's Breakfast Show, John Ashton and Tom Collins were reminiscing. On FBG 2 Dave Owen who did a very good oldies show remembering the offshore stations, this program was transmitted worldwide.

#### The End of Webradio (2) ?

Remember our little newsmen on this issue in the June edition? One of the pioneers of internet radio in the US has quit. Californian based Watsonville was the first US commercial radio station transmitting its entire output live via the internet. People behind the station claim they are forced to cease activities following the new law obliging them to pay royalties for every song they play. It would cost 3000 dollar a month. Too much for a small station. Their website will continue to offer copies of past recordings in the studio. But no more live radio.

#### But...

Inspired by Britain's colorful history of pirate radio broadcasting, Iain McLeod wants to save internet radio. The 39-year-old McLeod, a game designer who works out of his home in England, is the author of Streamer, a new software program designed to let people create online radio stations that are difficult for the authorities to trace.

#### Cory plans Nova return

An interesting newsmen which appeared on our newsmen by the end of July: Chris Cary is planning to relaunch Radio Nova on 25.2kHz, Ireland's long wave frequency. Cory, who changed the face of Irish radio in 1981 with the original Radio Nova, now lives on the Isle of Man and wants to base the station's studios in Douglas. "Everything I can possibly do to bring back Radio Nova on 25.2kHz is being done," he says. "The has got to be the biggest minefield of negotiations ever. Everyone agrees that it's right - but no one will say yes." It's not about money. It's just bloody-mindedness. It's very frustrating." UK sports station TeamTalk 252 replaced Atlantic 252 on the famous frequency at the start of this year, but have failed to attract listeners. Ironically, back in the mid-eighties with the internationally-assigned frequency lying idle, Cary himself was the first to broadcast from Inland on long wave when he ran tests.

#### Radio Mi Amigo RSL

Following approval by the UK Radio Authority, the community radio station was launched Thursday August 8th 2002. Radio Mi Amigo hit the airwaves from the former Trinity House Lighthouse No 18 built moored in Harwich harbour. It was playing a range of music from the 1950s through to the present day until September 4th when the 28 day licence ended. The project was co-funded by the East of England Development Agency and the Harwich Connection community fund. The station's broadcasts on 1503 kHz AM were regularly picked up until the UK.

#### Where are they now?

Former Caroline deejay Keith Francis has reoriented him and can now be heard on Bridge FM on 102.1 FM in Budapest Hungary. He presents a program on weekdays' evenings. Senior listeners will know him from Caroline South on Caroline Radio. Then he started working for the BBC followed by a number of UK stations. Recently he was active on Classic Gold, now he has started working at 'The Army Radio Network' also known as 'Garrison Radio'. It's the British army's own military broadcaster in the UK and around the world. Of course we are talking about Dave Lee Travis. Tris are aimed via 1287 & 1350 kHz on low power and via < [www.garrisonradio.com](http://www.garrisonradio.com) >. Tune in on Sundays 10.00-13.00 UK time to hear Dave Lee's voice on the wireless. DL Travis' comment: "I'm really looking forward to this new challenge. Finding out what the 'great' British Army like to talk about, and getting feedback from the audience will help shape the show, but mainly it's got to be about having real fun and having a laugh, 'cause that's what it's all about. Independent radio is where it's all happening and it will be a great thrill to be broadcasting to huge military bases across the UK." \*\* See Monday September 2nd Peter van Dam is back on the radio on weekdays. He is to be heard on Radio Royal in Homburg Achel in Belgium. He's hosting the broadcast show. Peter started his career on Radio 199 as Peter Brian way back in 1972. Other offshore stations he worked for were Atlantis, Caroline and Mi Amigo.

#### God's Message

Merlin Communications International, since a few months part of 'Vesper Thomycraft', has made a deal with Family Radio, a religious SW broadcaster. MCI is relaying 7 hours of Family Radio per each day on SW. Relays emanate from different sites within the UK, South Africa, the United Arab Emirates and the Ascension Islands. Next Summer both parties will decide whether the deal will be continued.

## MADE IN HOLLAND

#### Offshore Radio Week

August 26th saw the start of the week of the offshore radio stations on Radio 192. Readers of this Newsletter will know that Radio 192 has very strong ties with the former Radio Veronica (offshore). The station was offered a number of interesting nostalgic recordings for this special event and as a result some very exclusive old radio programs could be heard on the station. Also former deejays from offshore days were guest to do live programming. Erik de Zwart (Paul de Wit on Caroline), Hans Hoogendoorn (Hans ten Hooge on RNI) and Joost den Dooyker (RNI, Veronica) who asked himself 'why the hell we do remember it after 28 years!' Highlight was Saturday August 31st. Radio 192 had hired the MV Minerva which sailed to open seas off the Scheveningen coast at 09.15 in the morning. All Radio 192 programmes that day were presented live from the ship by former offshore personalities. Names such as Wilf Luikinga (Veronica), Peter van Dam (Mi Amigo), Bart van Leeuwen (Veronica and Mi Amigo), Marc Jacobs (Mi Amigo), Hans Hoogendoorn (RNI) and Ferry Maat (RNI) were to be heard that day playing the music from the era they were working for one of the offshore stations. Ananda had the chance to climb aboard the Minerva. The sea was rather choppy creating an atmosphere like in the good old days. During the Baken 16 programme presented by Marc Jacobs and Bart van Leeuwen, the first specimen of the new Radio 192 oldies double-CD was presented on the radio. At the same time a number of former deejays who were aboard the Minerva, were sweeping away bottles in the North sea enclosing letters for people to get a free copy of the Radio 192 CD. (Hans Knot)

## THE RADIO CAROLINE STORY FROM THE INSIDE

#### - Book Review by Hans Knot -

Some weeks ago a 118 pages book, called 'The Radio Caroline Story from the Inside' found its way into my postbox. It was sent over from America by the author, where I had met once in 1995 when we were doing a one time show after each other on the MY Rose Revenge, one of the ships used by Radio Caroline. That time it was in the harbour of London and it was great to remember that ring some a mile contacts lately. But the

